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Board of Trustees Suspends President Jamie Comstock Williamson

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Board of Trustees Suspends President Jamie Comstock Williamson

Quick Facts

- Under the terms of her contract with the university, Williamson is entitled to a “reasonable opportunity to be heard” before the Board takes further action.
- According to Bigham, if Williamson chooses to exercise that right, the opportunity will take place on June 26 at 10 a.m. at the university. The Board will then determine if cause exists to proceed with termination.



Jamie Comstock Williamson

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – After meeting in a special executive session regarding the contract of Winthrop University **President Jamie Comstock Williamson** for seven hours on June 13, **Winthrop University trustees** voted in public session 12-1 to direct **Board Chair Kathy Bigham** to deliver to Williamson notice of the Board’s basis for termination for cause.

Under the terms of her contract with the university, **Williamson** is entitled to a “reasonable opportunity to be heard” before the Board takes further action.

According to Bigham, if Williamson chooses to exercise that right, the opportunity will take place on June 26 at 10 a.m. at the university. The Board will then determine if cause exists to proceed with termination.

The Board immediately suspended the President’s duties and obligations pending further Board action. **Debra Boyd**, provost and vice president for academic affairs, was directed to assume the duties of the president as the acting chief executive officer of the university.

Board Chair Kathy Bigham said that “the Board is carrying out its responsibilities as stewards of Winthrop University in initiating this process. Trustees are aware of public concerns and questions about certain matters at Winthrop, and we want to be sure that President Williamson has every opportunity to respond to those concerns in a comprehensive manner before we consider what, if any, next steps should be taken.”

The Board does not intend to issue additional statements until its June 26 meeting.

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